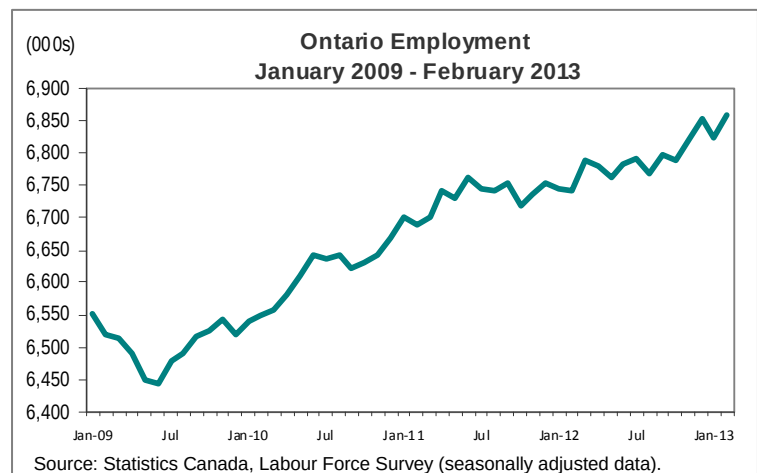


Ontario Labour Market Statistics for February 2013

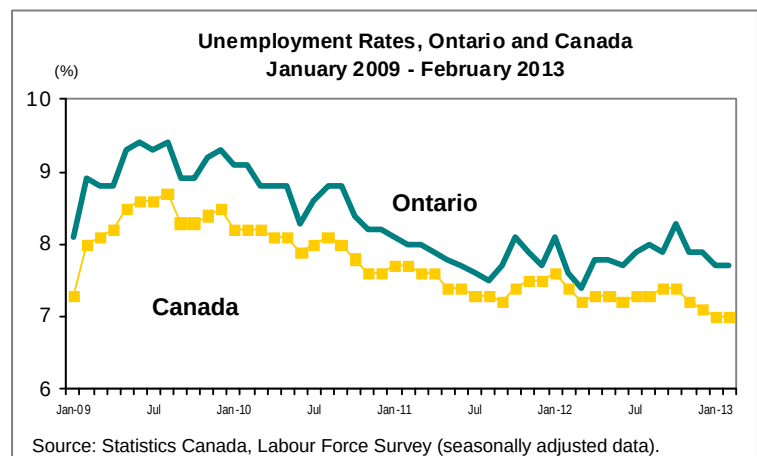
Ontario Employment Increased

- Employment in Ontario increased by 35,300 net jobs in February, the largest monthly gain since March 2012. This more than offset the decline in the previous month. Full-time and part-time employment increased in February by 12,400 and 23,000, respectively. Employment gains in Ontario have been volatile over the past year, with no more than two months of consecutive growth recorded.
- Since the recessionary low in June 2009, employment in Ontario has risen by 415,500 (+6.4%) net jobs. Employment in February was 149,700 (+2.2%) above the pre-recession peak level reached in September 2008.
- By age group, February's employment gains was concentrated among youth aged 15-24 (20,900 or +2.3%) and older workers aged 55 and over (+10,500 or +0.8%).



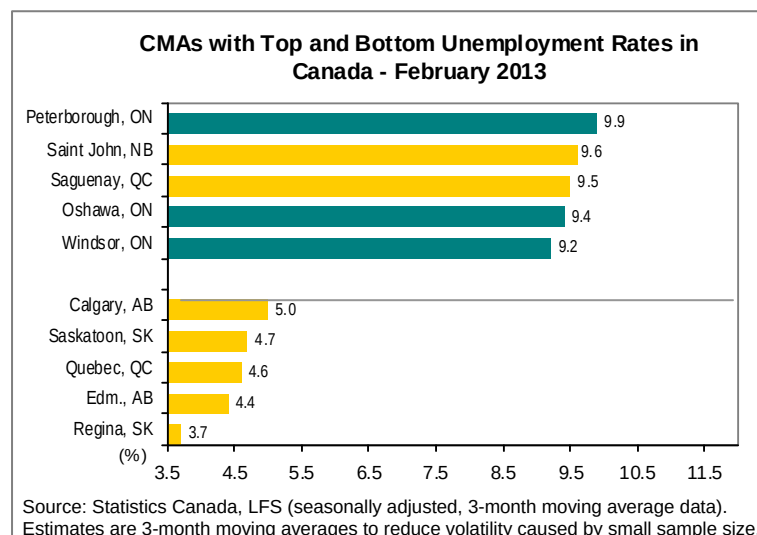
Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 7.7%

- Despite the employment increase, the unemployment rate in Ontario remained at 7.7% in February, as the number of people participating in the labour market grew by 43,100.
- In February, Ontario's unemployment rate was 0.7 percentage points higher than the Canadian average rate (7.0%) and has exceeded the national average since January 2007.
- Although 1.7 percentage points below the peak rate of 9.4% recorded in June 2009, the unemployment rate in February was above the recent low of 7.4% reached in March 2012. Ontario's unemployment rate remains well above the 6.5% rate recorded in September 2008 before the start of the economic downturn.



High Unemployment Rates in Ontario CMAs

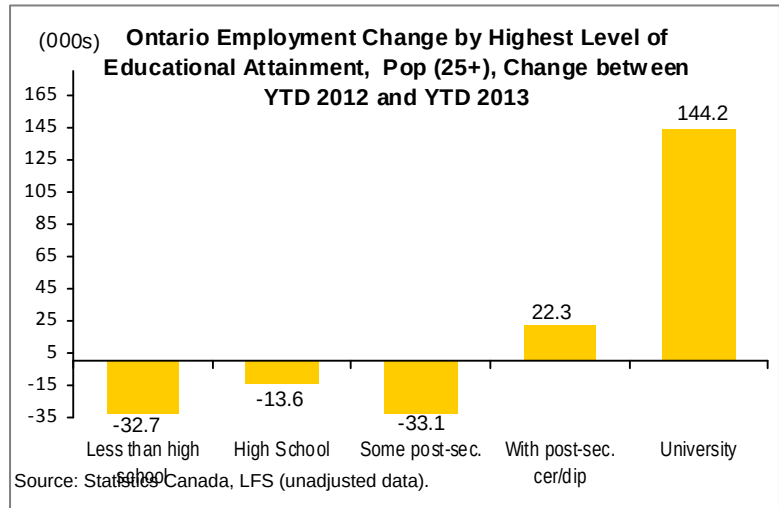
- In February, Ontario Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) recorded three of the top five unemployment rates in Canada:
 - At 9.9%, Peterborough recorded the highest unemployment rate across all CMAs. Oshawa's unemployment rate was the fourth highest at 9.4%.
- At 5.8%, Guelph had the lowest unemployment rate among Ontario's CMAs, ranking ninth lowest in Canada.



Year-over-Year Comparisons

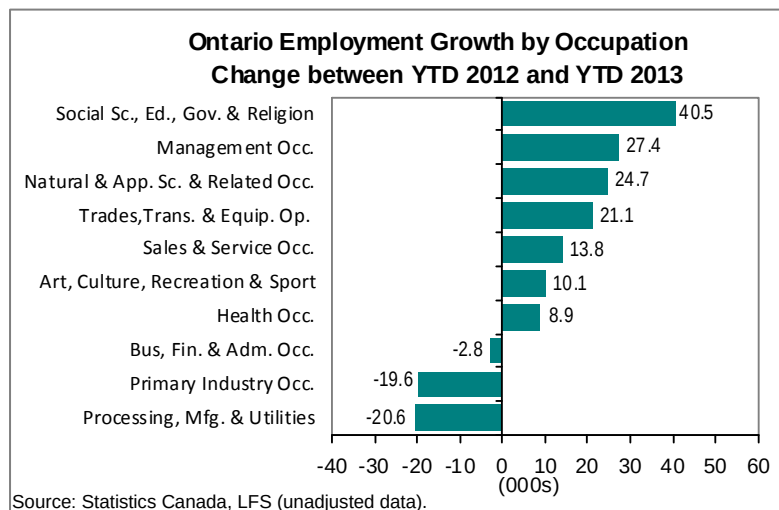
Employment Growth by Educational Attainment

- In first two months of 2013, employment increased by 87,000 net jobs for adults 25 years and over compared to the first two months of 2012. All of the job gains were concentrated among those with postsecondary education (PSE), totalling 166,500, while adults without PSE posted a decline of 79,300 net jobs over the same period.
- Employment rose by a strong 144,200 for adults with a university degree and by 22,300 for those with a postsecondary certificate or diploma.
- The unemployment rate for adults with PSE was 5.5% in the first two months of 2013 compared to an unemployment rate of 8.5% for adults without PSE.



Occupational Employment Growth

- Seven of the ten major occupational groups in Ontario recorded employment growth over the first two months in 2013 compared to last year. Occupations in Social Science, Government Service and Religion recorded significant job gains (+40,500), followed by Management Occupations (+27,400).
- Over the same period, the largest employment decline was recorded in Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities Occupations (-20,600).



Long-Term Unemployment

- The number of long-term unemployed continues to remain higher than pre-recessionary levels:
 - During the first two months of 2013, an average of 140,400 people faced long-term unemployment (27 weeks or more), higher than the number recorded in January 2008 (51,200).
 - This group now represents 24.7% of all unemployed workers in Ontario, up from 11.9% in 2008.
 - At 22.2 weeks, the average duration of unemployment so far in 2013 was notably higher compared to the pre-recessionary average of 14.0 weeks reported over the first two months of 2008.
- The long-term share of unemployment generally recovers slowly following a recession. For instance, it took eight years for the long-term share to return to its pre-recessionary level after reaching a record high of 33.5% following the 1990-91 recession.

